Public Service.

Committee to report on the working of the Government Order regarding communal representation in the public service.

* 195 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what action Government have taken on the resolution passed by this House on 2nd March 1925 recommending that a committee be appointed to enquire and report as to the working of the policy laid down by Government in G.Os. No. 658, dated 15th August 1922, and No. 76, dated 6th February 1924, and to suggest means to effectively provide for giving preference to competent candidates from communities which have not had their due share of appointments in public service until the existing inequalities are removed ?

A.—A copy of G.O. No. 733, Public, dated the 3rd August 1925, appointing a committee is placed on the table.[a]

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, with reference to paragraph 6 of the Government Order giving the composition of the committee, will the Government be pleased to appoint an hon. Member representing the interests of the Oriya community to the committee seeing that we have so much agitation from that community both in and out of the Council ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The point will be considered, Sir."

Village Establishments.

Alleged removal from service of certain village officers for illicit cutting of trees.

* 196 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the village officers of six villages in the taluk of Uttankarai, Salem district, were removed from service on the ground that trees had been cut from unreserved porambokes ;

(*b*) whether the village officers of Panaparathupatti and Nochipatti were among those so removed ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the village officers of those two villages had sent reports about the removal of trees before that and applied to the Deputy Tahsildar to make a local inspection of the place at once without sending the reports to the Revenue Inspector for enquiry ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that on the reports of those village officers some offenders were prosecuted and convicted ; and

(*e*) whether it is the general policy of the Government to collect the prices of the trees from the village officers and not to dismiss them for illicit removal of trees by unknown persons ; if it is so, why the village officers of six villages were removed from service contrary to the general policy ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have no information regarding the case in question.

(*e*) The policy of Government is to leave each case to be dealt with on its merits by the local officers subject to the right of persons who feel aggrieved to appeal.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 393–394 infra.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (e) enunciating the policy of Government, may I know whether the Government would never interfere even where a large number of village officers are affected, simply because the Board refuses to interfere on appeal? Here is a case where a large number of village officers have been wrongly dealt with and will not Government look into the matter?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not think the answer can bear the construction which the hon. Member puts upon it. I do not know that they have appealed and that they have been wrongly dealt with ; if there was anything to show that they have been wrongly dealt with on appeal, Government will look into such cases."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" But how are the Government to know it? They have no information and refuse to call for the information. May I request them to get some information as I have suggested in my question and take the necessary steps?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There is no suggestion anywhere in the question that these people have appealed and not received any redress."

Depressed Classes.

Use of well by the Madiga or Mala section of the depressed classes.

* 197 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government that, where there is already a well for either the Madiga or the Mala section of the depressed classes in any village, the need for a separate well for the use of the members of the other section need not be considered ; and

(b) the number of villages in the Bellary district where proposals from the taluk board president or the Labour Officer or the communities concerned for a well for the use of the Mala or the Madiga section of the depressed classes have been turned down because of the existence already of a well for Madigas or Malas, as the case may be, in their village?

A.—(a) No.
(b) Four.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, in answer to clause (a) Government state that it is not their policy to refuse a separate well for the other community where there is already a well for either of the Madiga or the Mala section of the depressed classes. But in clause (b) they say that four such proposals have been turned down on the ground that there was already a well for one of the two sections. It is a serious matter, Sir, because these two sections are very intolerant of each other and it would lead to trouble and friction if the Government persist in this policy."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If the hon. Member comes and sees me, we shall discuss the question in detail."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Can any one of the two communities compel the other to permit them to use their wells?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur .—" Certainly not." However I will look into the question.